SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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South Carolina's Employment Situation
April 2017

Employment increases to record level, unemployment rate falls

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South Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped in April to 4.3 percent from 4.4 percent in March, while the number of people working in the state marked another record high.

The number of employed people increased by 3,978 to 2,233,160. The number of unemployed people dropped 2,126 in April to 101,513, and the state's labor force increased by 1,852 to a total of 2,334,673.

In the last 12 months, the labor force has grown by 37,733 people, and employment gains totaled 55,856. The level of unemployment decreased by 18,123.

Nationally, the unemployment rate edged lower to 4.4 percent in April from 4.5 percent in March.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted[1])
April 2017 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls increased by 1,700 over the month, to a level of 2,076,100.

- South Carolina saw job gains in Leisure and Hospitality (+2,000); Government (+900); Construction (+700); Financial Activities (+500); Other Services (+500); and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+400).
- Industries reporting decreases were Professional and Business Services (-1,400); Education and Health Services (-1,100); Manufacturing (-600); and Information (-200).

Compared to April 2016, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 28,600.

- Gains were reported in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+9,200); Manufacturing (+7,400); Education and Health Services (+4,300); Government (+3,400); Construction (+2,800); Professional and Business Services (+2,400); Leisure and Hospitality (+700); and Financial Activities (+500).
- Decreases included the Information (-1,300) and Other Services (-1,000) industries.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted[2])
Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 14,000 from March 2017 to April 2017 for a total of 2,082,800.

- Gains were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+10,300); Construction (+1,400); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,400); Government (+600); Financial Activities (+500); Professional and Business Services (+400); and Other Services (+300).
- Information and Mining and Logging remained the same.
- Industries showing decreases were Education and Health Services (-500) and Manufacturing (-400).

The over-the-year, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm job count was up 25,600.
- Industries marking annual gains were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,800); Manufacturing (+7,300); Education and Health Services (+5,500); Construction (+3,700); Government (+2,700); Professional and Business Services (+700); Financial Activities (+200); and Mining and Logging (+200).
- Information (-1,200); Other Services (-1,200); and Leisure and Hospitality (-100) sectors saw decreases.

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[1]Seasonally Adjusted: Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year (i.e. tourist-related hiring and school closings in the summer). These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in data over time.

[2]Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
April 2017

Industry	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	March 2017 to April 2017		April 2016 to April 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,076,100*	*2,074,400*	*2,047,500*	*1,700*	*0.08%*	*28,600*	*1.40%*
Construction	96,000	95,300	93,200	700	0.73%	2,800	3.00%
Manufacturing	244,400	245,000	237,000	-600	-0.25%	7,400	3.12%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	402,100	401,700	392,900	400	0.10%	9,200	2.34%
Information	26,500	26,700	27,800	-200	-0.75%	-1,300	-4.68%
Financial Activities	100,700	100,200	100,200	500	0.50%	500	0.50%
Professional and Business Services	271,100	272,500	268,700	-1,400	-0.52%	2,400	0.89%
Education and Health Services	244,700	245,800	240,400	-1,100	-0.45%	4,300	1.79%
Leisure and Hospitality	246,900	244,900	246,200	2,000	0.81%	700	0.28%
Other Services	73,400	72,900	74,400	500	0.68%	-1,000	-1.34%
Government	366,000	365,100	362,600	900	0.25%	3,400	0.94%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
April 2017

Industry	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	March 2017 to April 2017		April 2016 to April 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	*2,082,800*	*2,068,800*	*2,057,200*	*14,000*	*0.68%*	*25,600*	*1.24%*
Mining and Logging	4,300	4,300	4,100	0	0.00%	200	4.88%
Construction	96,800	95,400	93,100	1,400	1.47%	3,700	3.97%
Manufacturing	244,600	245,000	237,300	-400	-0.16%	7,300	3.08%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	399,100	397,700	391,300	1,400	0.35%	7,800	1.99%
Information	26,600	26,600	27,800	0	0.00%	-1,200	-4.32%
Financial Activities	100,300	99,800	100,100	500	0.50%	200	0.20%
Professional and Business Services	270,000	269,600	269,300	400	0.15%	700	0.26%
Education and Health Services	246,700	247,200	241,200	-500	-0.20%	5,500	2.28%
Leisure and Hospitality	250,900	240,600	251,000	10,300	4.28%	-100	-0.04%
Other Services	73,500	73,200	74,700	300	0.41%	-1,200	-1.61%
Government	370,000	369,400	367,300	600	0.16%	2,700	0.74%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
April 2017

Area	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	March 2017 to April 2017 # Change	March 2017 to April 2017 % Change	April 2016 to April 2017 # Change	April 2016 to April 2017 % Change
Statewide	*2,076,100*	*2,074,400*	*2,047,500*	*1,700*	*0.08%*	*28,600*	*1.40%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	352,200	354,200	344,300	-2,000	-0.57%	7,900	2.29%
Columbia MSA	396,500	395,700	393,200	800	0.20%	3,300	0.84%
Florence MSA	89,400	88,700	87,200	700	0.78%	2,200	2.52%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	410,700	411,300	408,900	-600	-0.15%	1,800	0.44%
Myrtle Beach MSA	166,500	164,200	159,300	2,300	1.38%	7,200	4.52%
Spartanburg MSA	150,500	149,700	145,800	800	0.53%	4,700	3.22%
Sumter MSA	38,900	38,800	39,000	100	0.26%	-100	-0.26%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted
April 2017

Area	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	March 2017 to April 2017 # Change	March 2017 to April 2017 % Change	April 2016 to April 2017 # Change	April 2016 to April 2017 % Change
Statewide	*2,082,800*	*2,068,800*	*2,057,200*	*14,000*	*0.68%*	*25,600*	*1.24%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	352,500	352,100	345,800	400	0.11%	6,700	1.94%
Columbia MSA	397,600	395,900	393,200	1,700	0.43%	4,400	1.12%
Florence MSA	89,700	89,100	87,700	600	0.67%	2,000	2.28%
Greenville MSA	411,600	410,300	409,800	1,300	0.32%	1,800	0.44%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	77,500	76,000	76,400	1,500	1.97%	1,100	1.44%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	168,300	158,900	162,100	9,400	5.92%	6,200	3.82%
Spartanburg MSA	150,500	150,000	145,900	500	0.33%	4,600	3.15%
Sumter MSA	39,200	39,000	39,200	200	0.51%	0	0.00%

Note*: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.*

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		April 2017 LABOR FORCE	April 2017 EMPLOY-MENT	April 2017 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	April 2017 RATE (%)	March 2017 LABOR FORCE	March 2017 EMPLOY-MENT	March 2017 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	March 2017 RATE (%)	April 2016 LABOR FORCE	April 2016 EMPLOY-MENT	April 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	April 2016 RATE (%)
Bamberg County	↓	5,204	4,849	355	6.8	5,234	4,862	372	7.1	5,258	4,836	422	8.0
Marion County	↓	12,790	11,933	857	6.7	12,778	11,846	932	7.3	12,778	11,759	1,019	8.0
Allendale County	↓	2,640	2,468	172	6.5	2,657	2,465	192	7.2	2,656	2,436	220	8.3
Orangeburg County	↓	35,018	32,908	2,110	6.0	35,421	33,055	2,366	6.7	35,992	33,242	2,750	7.6
Marlboro County	↓	9,153	8,609	544	5.9	9,259	8,669	590	6.4	9,365	8,624	741	7.9
Lee County	–	6,532	6,165	367	5.6	6,526	6,163	363	5.6	6,527	6,081	446	6.8
Williamsburg County	↓	12,537	11,853	684	5.5	12,653	11,896	757	6.0	12,523	11,590	933	7.5
Barnwell County	↓	8,350	7,911	439	5.3	8,376	7,910	466	5.6	8,379	7,800	579	6.9
Clarendon County	↓	12,874	12,210	664	5.2	12,929	12,228	701	5.4	12,936	12,115	821	6.3
Chester County	↓	13,813	13,123	690	5.0	13,901	13,125	776	5.6	13,577	12,712	865	6.4
Fairfield County	↓	10,050	9,550	500	5.0	10,093	9,540	553	5.5	10,070	9,374	696	6.9
Dillon County	↓	12,821	12,190	631	4.9	12,878	12,199	679	5.3	12,773	11,916	857	6.7
Georgetown County	↓	25,673	24,455	1,218	4.7	25,640	24,265	1,375	5.4	25,225	23,619	1,606	6.4
Sumter County	↓	44,235	42,136	2,099	4.7	44,421	42,244	2,177	4.9	44,421	41,875	2,546	5.7
Calhoun County	↓	6,925	6,621	304	4.4	6,941	6,603	338	4.9	6,900	6,505	395	5.7
Darlington County	↓	30,457	29,116	1,341	4.4	30,479	28,998	1,481	4.9	29,971	28,259	1,712	5.7
Union County	↓	11,771	11,268	503	4.3	11,879	11,301	578	4.9	11,628	10,913	715	6.1
Cherokee County	↓	23,546	22,565	981	4.2	23,855	22,745	1,110	4.7	23,628	22,314	1,314	5.6
Horry County	↓	144,482	138,621	5,861	4.1	138,791	131,972	6,819	4.9	140,323	132,985	7,338	5.2
Florence County	↓	66,810	64,122	2,688	4.0	66,831	63,957	2,874	4.3	65,681	62,342	3,339	5.1
Lancaster County	↓	38,142	36,612	1,530	4.0	38,308	36,617	1,691	4.4	37,441	35,508	1,933	5.2
Abbeville County	↓	10,295	9,897	398	3.9	10,418	9,972	446	4.3	10,451	9,903	548	5.2
Colleton County	↓	17,080	16,416	664	3.9	17,225	16,479	746	4.3	16,877	15,968	909	5.4
Edgefield County	↓	10,942	10,520	422	3.9	10,766	10,290	476	4.4	10,829	10,277	552	5.1
Greenwood County	↓	31,286	30,065	1,221	3.9	31,635	30,282	1,353	4.3	31,545	30,035	1,510	4.8
Kershaw County	↓	29,361	28,211	1,150	3.9	29,454	28,186	1,268	4.3	29,107	27,690	1,417	4.9
McCormick County	↓	3,410	3,278	132	3.9	3,440	3,282	158	4.6	3,437	3,245	192	5.6
Chesterfield County	↓	22,035	21,207	828	3.8	22,166	21,254	912	4.1	21,871	20,859	1,012	4.6
Hampton County	↓	8,195	7,883	312	3.8	8,186	7,831	355	4.3	8,283	7,802	481	5.8
Laurens County	↓	30,325	29,192	1,133	3.7	30,468	29,215	1,253	4.1	30,415	28,884	1,531	5.0
Beaufort County	↓	73,161	70,622	2,539	3.5	72,417	69,557	2,860	3.9	72,760	69,375	3,385	4.7
Oconee County	↓	34,437	33,221	1,216	3.5	34,804	33,392	1,412	4.1	34,423	32,776	1,647	4.8
Pickens County	↓	56,521	54,570	1,951	3.5	56,964	54,676	2,288	4.0	56,620	53,991	2,629	4.6
Richland County	↓	202,091	194,920	7,171	3.5	203,211	195,235	7,976	3.9	200,141	191,155	8,986	4.5
Aiken County	↓	76,231	73,656	2,575	3.4	75,206	72,261	2,945	3.9	75,333	71,817	3,516	4.7
Spartanburg County	↓	144,585	139,701	4,884	3.4	145,711	140,176	5,535	3.8	141,467	135,199	6,268	4.4
York County	↓	132,055	127,562	4,493	3.4	132,653	127,675	4,978	3.8	129,369	123,742	5,627	4.3
Anderson County	↓	89,415	86,447	2,968	3.3	90,004	86,612	3,392	3.8	89,284	85,468	3,816	4.3
Berkeley County	↓	97,194	93,975	3,219	3.3	97,912	94,342	3,570	3.6	95,580	91,421	4,159	4.4
Dorchester County	↓	75,524	73,064	2,460	3.3	76,073	73,327	2,746	3.6	74,277	71,102	3,175	4.3
Saluda County	↓	8,869	8,574	295	3.3	8,821	8,483	338	3.8	8,800	8,423	377	4.3
Newberry County	↓	19,001	18,401	600	3.2	19,101	18,408	693	3.6	19,014	18,220	794	4.2
Greenville County	↓	246,392	238,654	7,738	3.1	247,947	239,179	8,768	3.5	245,707	235,932	9,775	4.0
Jasper County	↓	12,006	11,631	375	3.1	11,859	11,430	429	3.6	12,002	11,502	500	4.2
Charleston County	↓	206,363	200,163	6,200	3.0	207,597	200,728	6,869	3.3	202,942	195,196	7,746	3.8
Lexington County	↓	148,033	143,555	4,478	3.0	148,603	143,556	5,047	3.4	146,653	140,941	5,712	3.9
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	379,081	367,202	11,879	3.1	381,582	368,397	13,185	3.5	372,799	357,719	15,080	4.0
Columbia MSA	↓	405,329	391,431	13,898	3.4	407,123	391,603	15,520	3.8	401,671	384,088	17,583	4.4
Florence MSA	↓	97,267	93,238	4,029	4.1	97,310	92,955	4,355	4.5	95,652	90,601	5,051	5.3
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	422,653	408,863	13,790	3.3	425,383	409,682	15,701	3.7	422,026	404,275	17,751	4.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,334,673	2,233,160	101,513	4.3	2,332,423	229,182	103,639	4.4	2,296,940	2,177,304	119,636	5.2

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

↑   Unemployment Rate Up
↓   Unemployment Rate Down
–   Unemployment Rate =